



GREATER LAWNDALE

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

# NEWS NOTES

3152 W. ROOSEVELT RD. CHICAGO 12 VA 6-3226

VOL. IV NO. 8

OCTOBER, 1960

BULK RATE  
U. S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
CHICAGO, ILL.  
Permit No. 735

Mrs. Helen Winters  
26 Shanley Ave.  
Newark, New Jersey

Form 3547 Requested

## GLCC REQUESTS BUS TRANSPORTATION FOR SCHOOLS ON DOUBLE SHIFT

The Greater Lawndale Conservation Commission joined many Lawndale citizens and PTA groups in requesting bus transportation as a means to end double-shift schools at the local Board of Education budget hearings.

However, Superintendent of Schools Benjamin C. Willis, Board of Education Representative at both the District 8 and District 10 hearings, did not mention the bus transportation requests except for this comment in the District 8 hearing: "You have been misinformed when you say we could eliminate double shifts by putting the children where the rooms are. We could do that if we want to raise the classroom size to 45 or 47."

GLCC president William W. Busch stated the case for Lawndale students by indicating that bus transportation would be less expensive per pupil than are the new elementary schools "which have failed to end the double shift system in the city or in Lawndale."

### BUSES ONLY \$150

He exemplified this by saying, "According to a Chicago bus company, school buses cost \$150 a year per pupil. Upper grade centers could be used for pupils in lower grades, while upper grade students could go by student rate on public buses for \$60 per year per pupil."

"By way of contrast a new elementary school costs \$1,000 per pupil."

The Chicago school situation was compared with that of other cities in Mr. Busch's presentation: "Bus transportation is being increasingly used in New York, St. Louis and Gary. Bus transportation for normal children was used in Chicago in the '20's to the extent of several thousand dollars annually."

### TRANSFERS REQUESTED TOO

Redistricting and transfers were among the requests of Lawndale citizens at the school hearings. Mr. Busch made the statement that "every year the difference between capacity of Lawndale schools and

their enrollment increases, yet within three miles other schools operate at half or two-thirds of potential. We see no reason why one area should be penalized while space remains in other areas."

While requests for bus transportation, and an end to double shift and overcrowded classrooms were the most urgent, several requests for an after-school social development program were presented to the Board of Education. At the District 8 hearing, Dr. Willis said, "I interpret this (social development program) to be the most important and urgent request." Mr. Busch, in his testimony, wanted to include informal educational aspects in this recreational program, such as speech therapy, psychological testing, and small group tutoring.

## MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

The GLCC Ladies Auxiliary and Block Club Leaders are now conducting the annual GLCC membership drive. Story on Page 3.

### HEALTH FACILITIES NEEDED?

Dr. Willis also told the audience at the District 8 hearing that, "I am convinced that lack of proper health clinic facilities is more of a problem than is double shift in Lawndale."

Three tracts of land for area schools - one for a new building, two for recreation - were approved for purchase September 28 by the Board of Education. Land at Harrison, Albany, and Sacramento will be the site of a new elementary school to relieve overcrowded classes at Gregory, Manley, and Shepard schools.

A plot at Spaulding and Monroe will be used for recreational space for Marshall High and elementary pupils, and the eventual construction of a new Marshall elementary school, it was reported. A third tract of land, at Maypole near Keeler will be used for additional recreational area for the Tilton Elementary School.



GLCC President William Busch testifies before Board of Education members

## THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS... ENCOURAGES BLOCK CLUBS



William W. Busch

It is very encouraging to me to realize how active block clubs and citizens in the Lawndale area have been recently. It is this very type of community interest and civic participation which the Greater Lawndale Conservation Commission appreciates and encourages.

Within the past month, three new block clubs have been organized as affiliates of GLCC. This brings the total to nearly 110.

The 3100 West 16th Street Block Club recently was entertained by the Youth Auxiliary, sponsored by Mrs. Eva Mae Davis. This youth auxiliary is very active - it meets daily at 4:30 with Mrs. Davis - and performs such as is pictured below.

Two other new block clubs have also become affiliated with GLCC lately. They are the 3900 West Polk Block Club and the 3700 West Lexington Block Club. We wish to give all of the encouragement and help we can to these new block clubs, and to any other citizens who are contemplating organizing a block club.

We also wish to commend the already established clubs for their activities and interest in community betterment. Many of these are reported on Page 4. But this is only a representative sampling, because many other clubs have been sponsoring similar programs and activities.

Thus we say to all block clubs, "You've been doing a fine job, and we certainly encourage you to continue."

William W. Busch, President



The 3100 West 16th Street Block Club Youth Auxiliary

## CONGRATULATIONS!

The Greater Lawndale Conservation Commission wishes to extend a somewhat belated congratulations to Board Member Mrs. Dorothy Branch for receiving her doctorate degree in theology from Barton Theological Seminary of the University of Colorado during the summer.

## JA TEAMS CHOSEN

More than the 120 names of young people needed to make the Junior Achievement program in Lawndale a success have been submitted to the JA headquarters, Claude Peck, JA temporary chairman, reported.

Also 18 adult advisors have been recruited and trained to work with the six Junior Achievement Companies and a volunteer coordinator has been selected.

At the time of publication, plans were to hold meetings in the Douglas Park Field House two nights per week; Wednesdays and Thursdays from 7:00 to 9:00.

The coordinator is Clement Grant, 2124 South Central Park. Individual subcommittee chairman of the Junior Achievement Program have been Jack Spiers, Sears, Roebuck and Co.; Mrs. Mahala Evans, GLCC Ladies Auxiliary president; Alfred Rogers, Sears YMCA; and Wilton Brown, Peoples' Gas Light and Coke Co.

Business organizations cooperating in this pilot program are Sears, Roebuck and Co.; Ryerson Steel; Illinois Bell Telephone Co.; Peoples' Gas Light and Coke Co.; Kuppenheimer Clothes; and the Ladies Auxiliary of GLCC.

The Junior Achievement Program is designed to teach youth between the ages of 15-18 the functions of business and to impress upon them as future business men and women their responsibility to themselves, their fellow workers, their community, and their nation.

## ACC FALL CONFERENCE FEATURES MAYOR, WORKSHOPS

"Teamwork - The City and the Neighborhood, Planning for Better Communities" will be the topic of concentration for participants of the Association of Community Councils Fall Conference, on Saturday (October 23).

Julio Vivas, GLCC executive director, will serve as chairman of the housing and zoning workshop, one of five areas with which the participants will be dealing.

Panel members of Mr. Vivas' workshop are Robert Ewbank, director of administration, Building Department; Brian M. Kilgallon, ordinance enforcement division, City of Chicago; Mark Satter, attorney and member of GLCC Board; and Mrs. Ozzie Badal, housing and zoning enforcement, Hyde Park community.

Nearly 100 neighborhoods will be represented at the sixth annual conference.

Workshops with the following themes will also be a part of the conference: the neighborhood school and school services, law enforcement and public safety, programs and services for youth, and human relations within the community.

Mayor Richard J. Daley will be featured as the luncheon speaker. He will speak about "The City's Role" in improving community life. The "Citizen's Role" will be outlined by John B. Turner, director of field services for the Cleveland (O.) Welfare Federation in the opening session.

The Saturday before the conference, a festive and colorful "Pep Rally" was staged in the Loop as an official kick-off for the conference.

# MEMBERSHIP DRIVE BEGINS

The annual GLCC membership drive for residents and small businesses is again underway, with an added feature this year. One thousand memberships, including 100% block club participation, is the 1960 goal.

The campaign this year is under the joint sponsorship of the GLCC Ladies Auxiliary and block club leaders, according to Mrs. Mahala Evans, president of the Ladies Auxiliary. The Ladies Auxiliary has sponsored the drive in the past.

The campaign was officially started with the "kick-off" meeting held last Tuesday night. At that time, solicitors received kits containing necessary equipment (GLCC information, re-celpt books, etc.) and discussed techniques to obtain the memberships.

The pre-campaign activity was the Ladies Auxiliary Get Acquainted tea, for new members.

## NEWS BRIEFS...

\*\*\*GLCC wishes to congratulate staff members of the William Cullen Bryant school newspaper, "Scoops", for winning the first place medalist award in the Columbus Press Association National Scholastic Competition.

\*\*\*The Young Matrons of the Mt. Ebenezer Missionary Baptist Church extend an invitation to everyone for their final program of 1960, "Thanks Be to God" will be the theme of the program, to be held November 20, 3:30 p.m.

\*\*\*The Arnold Methodist Church sponsored an Interdenominational Community Vacation Church School this summer for the moral, educational, and spiritual benefit of the children of the Triangle Community. Rev. Joseph B. Brown reported that attendance was quite good.

\*\*\*William Bonser, GLCC housing and zoning officer, reported that \$150,000 was used for building and improvements in Lawndale in only a 13-day period (September 15-30).

\*\*\*Mrs. Dorothy Branch, sponsor of the GLCC Youth Auxiliary, took a group of young people for a tour through the Cook County Jail. The youth saw cells and cell blocks for men and women, eating, cooking, and laundry facilities, and learned the theory of rehabilitation which is practiced in the jail from Warden Jack Johnson.

of the Ladies Auxiliary. Nearly 25 ladies joined in the fun and festivities of the Get Acquainted party, on September 29.

Weekly progress report meetings will be held until the final date of the membership drive on November 15.

Until then, official solicitors will be calling upon Lawndale residents and small business establishments to tell the GLCC story and collect memberships - both new and renewed memberships.

As a result of last year's membership drive, more than 800 people joined the Greater Lawndale Conservation Commission.



Ladies Auxiliary Get Acquainted Tea

## CITY REPORT INCLUDES GLCC ACTIVITIES

The activities of the Greater Lawndale Conservation Commission will be included in a Department of City Planning report to the Federal Government this fall.

Dennis Johnson, of the coordinating division of the Department of City Planning, requested information about GLCC and its method of encouraging community participation in GLCC activities, such as Operation Pride.

The Department report is the annual "workable program" report submitted to the Federal Government. Norman Elkin, Director, Dean Macris, Bernard Gordon, and Mr. Johnson are preparing it.

## HOUSING AND ZONING COMMITTEE TO LAUNCH EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

"The doors of Chicago must be opened to everyone regardless of race, color, or creed," rang the words of Attorney Mark J. Satter, chairman of the newly reactivated housing and zoning committee of GLCC in reference to the housing market in Chicago.

Mr. Satter made this comment after the housing and zoning committee met to discuss possible methods of encouraging mortgage and banking institutions to provide mortgage money in Lawndale.

He reported that the committee, in conjunction with GLCC, plans to conduct an extensive educational program to bring to the attention of mortgage institutions their responsibilities toward the community and to make them aware of their share of the blame for the condition which is coming about.

Satter said that along with this educational program for finance institutions, the GLCC committee would invite the cooperation of Lawndale residents to bring to the attention of city authorities all housing and zoning violations. This would bring about the ultimate elimination of such violations, he felt.

Other members of the committee are: Harry Gaynor of Gaynor Realty Co., L. C. Branch of House of Branch Morticians, Paul Howard of Sears, Roebuck, and Co., and Alderman Benjamin Lewis of the 24th Ward.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| Oct. 11 | Membership Drive Kick-Off Meeting, 8:00, Sears YMCA                                |
| Oct. 22 | Association of Community Councils Fall Conference, Sherman Hotel, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. |
| Oct. 25 | Steering Committee of Block Clubs meeting, 8:00, Sears YMCA                        |
| Nov. 1  | Membership Drive Report Meeting  |
| Nov. 2  | Health Committee Meeting, 10:30 a.m., Bd. of Directors Room                        |
| Nov. 8  | Membership Drive Report Meeting  |
| Nov. 8  | Steering Committee of Block Clubs meeting, 8:00, Sears YMCA                        |
| Nov. 11 | Schools Committee Meeting, 3:30-5:00 and 8:00-9:30, Sears YMCA                     |
| Nov. 15 | Membership Drive Closing Meeting, 8:00, Sears YMCA                                 |
| Nov. 22 | GLCC Board of Directors Meeting, noon, Sears YMCA                                  |

# BLOCK CLUB ACTIVITIES . . . .

\*\*\*The 1500 South Sawyer Block Club expressed thanks and appreciation for the encouragement given the block club members by the presentation of "Operation Pride" awards. Five members of the block club received an honorable mention award in the contest for the home improvements which they had performed.

Regular meetings of the 1500 South Sawyer Block Club are held the 3rd Thursday of each month at the Salome Baptist Church, 1522 South Sawyer Ave., 7:30 p.m.

\*\*\*The 1500 Drake Block Club sponsored a junior style show recently. The models ranged in age from 4 to 7. They were (l. to r. in the picture) Sandra Carpenter, 3, Ann Rita Wilson, 4, Sharon Terrell, 4, Diane Hopkins, 7, and Gwendolyn Roberts, 7. Linda Roberts, 12, served as commentator for the style show. (She is behind the models in the photo.)



The 4300 West 17th Street Block Club Parade



The 1500 Drake Block Club Style Show

\*\*\*The 1800 South Springfield Avenue Block Club is having a benefit banquet on October 29, 8:00 p.m., at Marcy Center to obtain a sprinkler system for Marcy Center. (Donation: \$5 per person.) Regular meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month, 7:30 p.m.

\*\*\*The Troy Block Improvement Club held its first fall meeting last Monday night.

\*\*\*The Karlov-Komensky Block Club has organized a Community Betterment and Action Council, an educational group. The program which they plan to undertake includes: better education, Negro history, better health precautions in the community, survey of food quality in local stores and supermarkets, instituting a pal club, investigating possibilities of establishing a credit union in the community, destruction of property by children, education in politics, and brighter street lights. This group was organized to afford members and community members a chance to better understand community problems and needs.

\*\*\*September 17 marked the first birthday of the 4300 West 17th Street Block Club which was celebrated by a party. Residents of other block clubs attended and gave the local members words of encouragement in their block club activities. Cookies, candy, peanuts and punch were served to attendees. Balloons were given to the children.

\*\*\*The 3400-3500 Greenshaw and St. Louis Block Club has filed a petition with the Board of Election Commissioners to place on the November 8 ballot a proposal to prohibit the sale of alcoholic beverages in their precinct (7th precinct, 24th ward). It was reported that 50 more signatures than were actually needed appeared on the petition. A majority of the precinct voters must support the proposal for it to become effective. This action was taken to lower the crime rate in the area.

\*\*\*The Imperial Block Club is already planning for Thanksgiving festivities. Gathered here are Mrs. Versie Thomas, Mrs. Mary Thomas, Mrs. Ethel Bell, Mrs. Mattie M. Bell, Henry Higgins, Mrs. Naomi Smallwood, Mrs. Emily Kyle, Mrs. Alver Smith, and Jack Thomas. A prize will be given for the owner of a winning ticket on November 14. Tickets may be purchased at 4013 W. Polk for 25¢.



The Imperial Block Club planning meeting

\*\*\*Officers of the Community Block Club (4100-4200 West 21st Street) were elected for the coming year. They are: John W. Southerland, President; Roosevelt Thomas, Vice President; Hattie Moore, Secretary; Helen Nixon, Assistant Secretary; Nathaniel Darrett, Treasurer; and Leroy Wheatley, Chairman. Regular meetings are held every third Thursday of each month.

\*\*\*The Cooperative Block Club had elections in September for officers for 1960-61. New officers are: Mrs. Martha Grillier, President; Mrs. O. Quinn, Vice President; and McKlesly Williams, 2nd Vice President. The Cooperative Block Club has undertaken a fall cleanup project which is being done on Saturday, Oct. 22.

## GREATER LAWDALE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

President . . . . . William W. Banch  
Vice Presidents . . . . . James Dytas  
Dr. Agost Lattimore  
Hazzard Parks

Secretary . . . . . Ethel Vessie  
Treasurer . . . . . Melvin A. Bart  
Executive Director . . . . . Julio Vivian  
Editor . . . . . Mary Bittling